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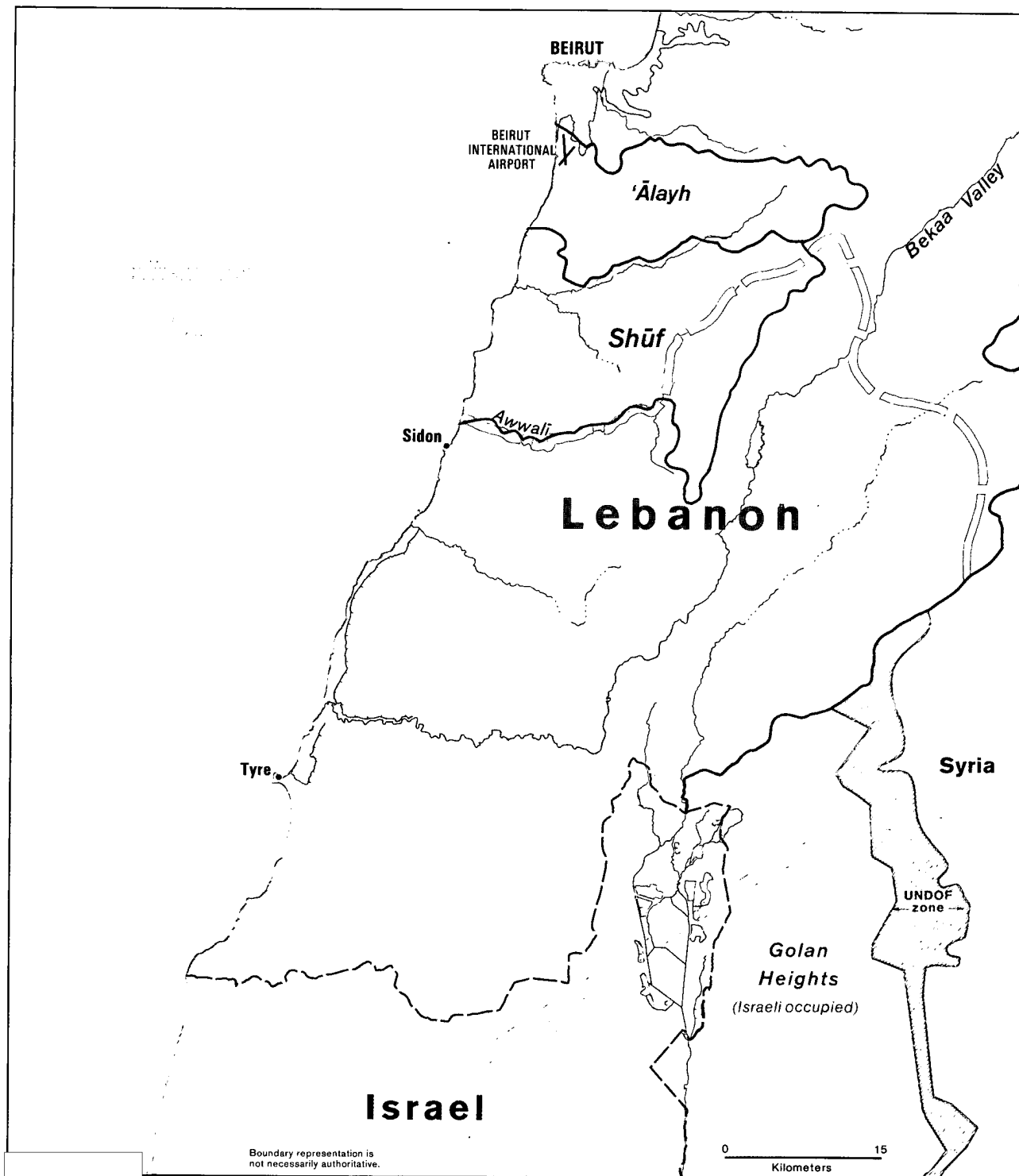


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ISRAEL-LEBANON: Redeployment Delayed

Defense Minister Arens has indicated that Israel will delay its withdrawal to the Awwali River until late on Tuesday to allow time for Druze leader Walid Junblatt to meet with Lebanese Government representatives in Paris this weekend. 

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Junblatt and Lebanese officials are to discuss Druze demands that the Christian Lebanese Forces militia reduce its presence in the Shuf and Alayh districts before the Lebanese Army moves there. Junblatt also wants the government to consider Druze demands for several political reforms. 

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Phalange Party leader Pierre Gemayel yesterday declared that the presence of the Lebanese Forces in the Shuf and Alayh districts will not be necessary after the Army deploys. An influential Phalange Party member had indicated to the US Embassy earlier this month, however, that the Phalange might issue such an announcement only as a ruse. Instead of withdrawing, Lebanese Forces commanders planned to dismantle their troops' barracks and disperse their units to Christian villages in the region. 

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The Israelis and the Lebanese are continuing their efforts to coordinate the realignment of the Lebanese Army. 

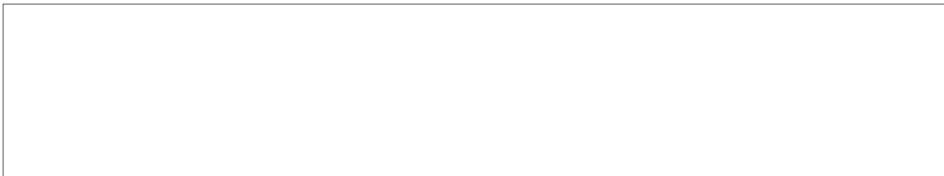
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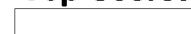
Comment: The Druze are likely to recognize the Lebanese Forces' ploy. Junblatt, who is notorious for changing his mind at the last minute, reportedly is in Damascus. The Syrians might persuade him not to meet with the Lebanese. Even if an agreement is reached between the Druze and the Lebanese Government, carrying it out will be difficult to assure. 

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FRANCE-CHAD: Mitterrand Clarifies Policy

President Mitterrand went beyond previous statements yesterday by suggesting that France does not rule out a north-south federation in Chad as a realistic solution to the conflict there, but he added that it is up to the Chadians. []

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Mitterrand, in a press interview, reiterated opposition to partition, but he encouraged all Chadians to work for a settlement. If this effort should fail, he advised the Chadians to call for a "peaceful inter-African intervention." He said he was not hostile to dissident leader Goukouni but criticized him for inviting Libyan intervention. []

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The French leader also played down reports of friction with Washington. He said that Paris had not ignored Washington and that the US had "paid a lot of attention" to France. Although Mitterrand denied that France had asked for AWACS, he noted that the French received intelligence on Libyan troop movements from the aircraft. []

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In addition, Mitterrand announced the visit yesterday of a special envoy—later reported to be Defense Minister Hernu—to N'Djamena and his own plans to meet soon with Chadian President Habre. Centrist politician Maurice Faure, one of Mitterrand's confidants, is already in Ethiopia for talks with OAU Chairman Mengistu. []

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Comment: Until now, France had rejected partition and emphasized preservation of Chadian territorial integrity. Although Mitterrand may hope that the Libyans would accept a compromise along these lines, the Chadians almost certainly would reject it. Habre—who recalled his Chargé in Paris after the interview—will regard Mitterrand's statements as proof that France wants to protect its own prestige and interests through a stalemate. []

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Mitterrand and Hernu are likely to try to persuade Habre to enter negotiations. Mitterrand's remarks about Goukouni may be intended as a warning to Habre that, if he is recalcitrant, the French could deal with the dissident leader. []

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The President's conciliatory comments about Washington probably reflect concern that relations could be harmed by open and protracted debate, especially in the press. []

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PAKISTAN: Unrest Continues

Violent protests are continuing in Sind Province, but opposition leaders believe that the agitation will die out within two weeks unless it spreads to Punjab Province. []

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Although the unrest has diminished slightly during the past two days, serious clashes occurred around Larkana. The city is the stronghold of the Pakistan People's Party, the largest opposition group. []

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The US Consulate General in Karachi estimates the death toll at 30 to 35 and reports new gun battles between rioters and police. Bazaars closed in several Sindhi cities yesterday, but merchants in Punjab ignored opposition calls for a general strike. []

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Students involved in riots are demanding the release of former Prime Minister Bhutto's daughter, Benazir, from house arrest. The US Embassy reports rumors that Nusrat Bhutto, party chairman and wife of the executed Prime Minister, plans a dramatic return to the country. President Zia's opponents are circulating an unsigned appeal purportedly from Nusrat that calls on Punjabis to join the anti-Zia movement. []

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Comment: Punjab remains the key to the opposition movement's prospects. Zia could not be confident of containing disturbances there if politicians and local leaders decide to organize protests. Landlord politicians and local elected officials have been the main organizers of protests in Sind. []

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The People's Party retains strong support among the rural and urban poor in Punjab, and these groups could be galvanized by either of the Bhutto women. Nusrat is undergoing medical treatment in Europe, but her politically talented daughter could lead the movement now. []

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PHILIPPINES: Speculation About the Assassination

Several theories about Benigno Aquino's assassination have emerged in Manila. [redacted]

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A source of the US Embassy reports that Aquino may have been murdered by one of his numerous enemies from Tarlac Province. In his early political career, Aquino used violence when dealing with political opponents and economic rivals. According to the source, such individuals had the strongest reasons to kill Aquino. [redacted]

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Another Embassy source says most university students and members of the opposition continue to believe that the first family ordered Aquino killed. Several prominent members of the ruling party speculate that low-level government officials had Aquino killed, without the knowledge of President Marcos, because they thought it would serve his interests. [redacted]

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Meanwhile, the Embassy reports that Marcos remains inaccessible to many of his senior deputies. According to the Embassy, Marcos does not appear to have fully recovered from his medical problems. [redacted]

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Comment: Although available evidence does not support any one of the theories, many Filipinos evidently believe that the government is responsible. Marcos's continued seclusion may be adding to this belief. [redacted]

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WEST GERMANY-CENTRAL AMERICA: Genscher's Visit

Foreign Minister Genscher will travel to Costa Rica at the end of next month to attend a conference of West German ambassadors. One West German magazine speculates that Genscher may seek a role as mediator in the region. Officials in the Foreign Ministry discount this notion, however, claiming that the government recognizes US prerogatives in the area.

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Comment: Genscher's planned trip probably is in response to the high public interest in Central America. It also may be a factfinding mission. Government policy appears to be in a state of flux, and spokesmen for the Christian Democrats and the Free Democrats recently have given conflicting views on the question of economic aid to Nicaragua. Both the Christian Democrats and the opposition Social Democrats have drafted policy proposals on Central America, promising a lively debate when the Bundestag reconvenes next month.

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USSR-EGYPT: Soviets Propose High-Level Meeting

Egyptian President Mubarak told the US Embassy on Tuesday that the Soviets have proposed that he and Foreign Minister Gromyko meet next month at the UN General Assembly session. Mubarak said he has declined but notes that Foreign Minister Ali might meet with Gromyko. The President says that, even if a meeting takes place, it will not signify any change in Egypt's basic policy toward the USSR. The last meeting of Egyptian and Soviet Foreign Ministers was in 1977. [REDACTED]

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Comment: The proposal suggests Moscow believes that the US peace initiatives in the Middle East are foundering and that there is an opportunity for breaking the impasse in Soviet-Egyptian relations. The USSR had seemed hesitant this year about normalizing ties, partly because it did not want to give the wrong indications to Arab radicals while it was trying to ensure their opposition to Washington's Arab-Israeli peace plan and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. A Foreign Ministers' meeting would help accelerate the gradual improvement in relations that has occurred since Mubarak took office in 1981. Cairo has stated repeatedly that it wants normal relations with both the US and USSR and that an exchange of ambassadors with Moscow is only a matter of time. [REDACTED]

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BELGIUM: Progress on INF

The Belgians have told US officials that open bidding for INF-related construction will begin early next month. Some cabinet members have balked at confirming to the public that Florennes is the base site.

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Comment: Brussels is trying to maintain the deployment schedule while avoiding a definitive decision to deploy INF. Once progress on construction becomes known, the Belgians probably will make a final confirmation of Florennes in the form of a low-key announcement. Brussels has used this tactic successfully in the past to avoid any controversy that could accompany formal announcements concerning INF.

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USSR-NATO: Invitations to Exercise

Turkey, Greece, and Italy have been invited by Moscow to send representatives to observe the Dnestr-83 exercise from 5 to 10 September in the Odessa Military District, according to a Turkish diplomat. The Soviets say the exercise will involve fewer than the 25,000 troops that would require Moscow to issue prior notification under the terms of the Helsinki Accords. Nevertheless, the USSR did make such an announcement last week.

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Comment: This invitation to the countries on NATO's southern flank, where forces from the Odessa Military District would be expected to operate, will help the Soviets appear more open in their military activities. This marks the first time since 1979 that Western observers have been invited to attend a Soviet exercise.

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SOUTH AFRICA: Constitutional Referendum

Prime Minister Botha's decision to set 2 November as the date for the referendum by whites only on a new constitution apparently reflects his concern about the erosion of white support for the reform package. The constitution would grant limited political rights to Coloreds and Indians. The ruling National Party, in the first use of cloture since 1963, has moved to end debate in Parliament on the reform bill by 31 August. Botha also has postponed a provincial byelection to make it coincide with the referendum.

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Comment: Although a recent poll showed that opposition to the new constitution is growing among whites, Botha's powerful party machine probably can win a close victory in the referendum. Botha presumably rescheduled the byelection to ensure that a setback in the province would not affect the referendum.

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Special Analysis

POLAND: Solidarity's Third Anniversary

Some street demonstrations and violence are likely to accompany a limited boycott of public transportation and the media next Wednesday as Solidarity supporters commemorate the third anniversary of the signing of the Gdansk Accords. The level of protest actions probably will be lower than last year, however, when more than 125,000 Poles demonstrated. The government has followed a familiar pattern of threatening workers with economic sanctions and increasing police presence in the streets. Events next week are unlikely to change either the regime's strategy for dealing with Poland's difficult political and economic problems or the determination of Solidarity supporters to press their case.

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Former Solidarity chief Walesa and the underground leadership have called for mostly symbolic forms of protest. Walesa recently participated in a small demonstration, but he probably will stay away from large protests next week. Although Walesa does not expect concessions from the authorities as a result of demonstrations, he believes that the union's supporters periodically have to show their determination to pursue their goals.

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Large segments of the work force are still loyal to the ideals of Solidarity, but they have become resigned to their inability to wrest concessions from the authorities. Faced with economic austerity, workers have become increasingly concerned about losing their jobs or suffering other economic penalties.

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At the Lenin Shipyards in Gdansk, the work slowdown supported by Walesa apparently has drawn little support. US Embassy officers noted that, at small demonstrations in Gdansk several weeks ago, the people were calm and less intent on demonstrating than they had been in May. In recent months protesters have dispersed quickly when confronted by the police.

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The Regime's Response

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They also have sought to sow confusion among workers by publicizing the statement of a senior underground activist who turned himself in, urging his colleagues to give up the fight. In

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addition, they have mounted a vicious propaganda attack against Walesa. []

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The regime's preparations reflect lingering uncertainty about Solidarity's strength. More importantly, they indicate a belief that signs of weakness would encourage more opposition. []

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Despite the formal lifting of martial law, the military still plays a key role. The governor of Gdansk, a major general, has taken the lead in threatening would-be protesters. The local defense committee, a military organization, has ordered the civilian authorities to maintain law and order. []

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Solidarity activists have told US Embassy officers that the regime has been distributing fake antigovernment literature of an inflammatory nature. They speculate that the government would like to provoke demonstrations as a pretext for arresting more activists. The authorities probably will not try to arrest large numbers of people, however, because this would undermine Premier Jaruzelski's efforts to obtain removal of Western sanctions. []

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No Sign of Reconciliation

Although the authorities have the security situation under control, they have not been able to devise policies that would increase their legitimacy. The abolition last week of the prestigious Polish Writers' Association—for its refusal to rescind its support of Solidarity—will make it more difficult for intellectuals to come to terms with the regime. It also will undercut the government's efforts to drive a wedge between workers and intellectuals. []

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The new officially sponsored trade unions and Jaruzelski's new mass organization—the Patriotic Movement for National Renewal—have attracted little support. The lower levels of the party remain ineffective and demoralized. []

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In the coming weeks, as the party prepares for a plenum on ideology, the regime could use tougher rhetoric against the Church. One minor party official recently urged members to stand up against religious beliefs and implied that those not willing to do so should leave the party. []

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Prospects

Periodic protests, including the ones next week, will be an inherent part of Polish political life for the next several years. The level of violence will depend largely on how aggressively the police disperse demonstrators. In coming months, the authorities may find it more difficult to control the small, spontaneous protests against economic policies that are beginning to occur than the larger protest actions for which they can prepare. []

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